

Fettercairn Primary Newsletter



September 2014

Issue No.24

A busy but good start to a new school year!

Welcome to the new school session 2014-2015. We hope that you all had a good summer. The children and staff are certainly back to school in excellent form, positive and determined to make the best of this forthcoming year. I'm pleased to welcome all our new pupils and parents to our school.

Yours sincerely

Ian Clarke

Head Teacher

End of Term Service

Last year the children conducted a great End of Term Assembly and showed off their many talents. We wish Eva, Emily, Joey and Kenneth all the best for the future

Staffing

Last session we said goodbye to Mrs Massie, Nursery Nurse who had been with us for 17 years and Miss Mairi Lawrie, P4-7. We wish them both all the best for the future. We welcome to our staff Mrs Elspeth Duffin, Nursery Teacher and Mrs Ruth Veitch, Nursery Nurse, Mrs E Thornton in P1-3 and Mr Ali Smith in the P4-7 class.

Contacting the School

If you have any queries, concerns, or have anything you feel you want to discuss regarding your child please call or come in to make an appointment to see us. We are here to help you and your child. However Mrs Johnstone, School Administrator's hours are Monday to Thursday. *This means that there is no one in the office on a Friday, so if you are contacting the school on a Friday please leave a message on the answer phone and someone will get back to you as soon as possible.*



All visitors must come in to school via the main entrance and **report directly** to the school office where Mrs Johnstone will be only too willing to help. It would be appreciated if classroom teaching was not disturbed.

Absences are recorded and, if we have not heard from you that your child will be off, it is our duty to telephone to check that your child is indeed at home. Please keep your child off school if they are not well enough to attend, no matter how much they want to come. School is not a good place for children when they aren't well. **Remember too that if your child has sickness / upset tummy then 48hrs must be left between the last bout and them returning to school.** This is to prevent other children from getting it. If you know that your child is going to be absent due to an appointment please could you let us know in writing beforehand where possible./

Environmental Studies Topics

This term the children will be using the following themes to gain skills and knowledge of the world around them:-

Nursery	All about me
P1-3	Marvellous Me
P4-7	Malawi

Nursery News

We have had a great start to our Nursery Year. All of our new starts have now settled well, including Mrs Duffin and Mrs Veitch. After consultation with the children, our focus for the next few weeks is 'All about me' and we are looking forward to visits from the Nursery Tooth Fairy, who will show us how to look after our teeth and Dr. Kat who will answer questions about bones, lungs and what makes you grow strong.

If you think you can help us in any way or have ideas or resources to share with us please let us know.

We enjoyed visiting the library where we heard the story 'The very Hungry Caterpillar' and we were given information about 'Techfest'. You may wish to take your child to Teddy Bears Hospital or Little Scientists! (For more information visit www.techfestsetpoint.org.uk/tis) Techfest kindly donated prizes to be raffled and the winners are Max and Floyd who both won a Hungry Caterpillar book. Joseph won a weekend pass for 4 to Techfest 2014. Well done!

Community News

Every Tuesday in September and October there will be a drop in café in the Public Hall from 2pm to 4pm. Entry is by donation. Please support this local activity.

Aberdeenshire Life Education Centre Mobile Classroom (ALEC)

On Monday 15th September the ALEC Mobile Classroom visited our school. This is a resource which is sponsored by the Rotary and supported by Aberdeenshire Council and is all about giving the children a different experience with regards to teaching them all about their mental, emotional and physical health. Each class and Nursery were allocated a time for visit to the Mobile Classroom to learn or explore an aspect pertinent to their age and stage of development.

School Lunches

Please note the cost of school lunches is £2 per ticket. Cheques should be made payable to Aberdeenshire Council.

P4-7 pupils are encouraged to be independent and purchase these on arrival at school. P1-3 pupils who need a ticket/s will be guided through to purchase these at the start of the school day. If younger pupils have cheques in their 'Home packs' the adults will see these and ensure the children get the tickets you request. Once a book has been purchased please just put one ticket in each day with your child's name on it.

School News

We are pleased to say that there will be a number of clubs being offered to the children this Session. We are starting with a morning multi-sports club, football club, Cross-Country running club. /

On Tuesday 2nd September the P4-7 class went to an open day at Mid Hill Wind Farm. All the children were a credit to the school. Congratulations must go to Nick who won an Art competition in the age 10-11yr category and also to Bryan, Jake, Kieran and Nick who won a science competition on the day. For winning these competitions the school received two IPADs. Well done boys! All the children who attended the day received a 'gift bag' containing a Timex watch and some other goodies!

Water bottles

Just a reminder that the pupils are permitted to bring water bottles to school for use in the classroom. Please make sure that the bottles are clearly labelled and that they are taken home every evening to be cleaned.

SPREE

If anyone still has a SPREE book at home please could you either send in the money or send the book back as soon as possible. Thanks.

A Helping Hand

If you feel you can help the school in any way, whether it would be as a parent helper in class, helping tidy the school, helping with one of our groups or even offering to run an after school activity then please fill in the helping hand form at the end of this newsletter and return it back to school as soon as possible.

Fettercairn Primary Parent Council – September 2014

UPCOMING EVENTS

Parent Council Meeting

The next Parent Council meeting will be held at 7pm on **Wednesday 8th October** in the Parent Lounge at the school. All parents/guardians are welcome to come along – the more the merrier!

Joining the Parent Council gives you the chance to directly support your child's education, influencing decisions about school matters and fundraising for equipment and trips. It's also a great way to get to know other parents and teachers at the school. All welcome.

Bag2school

The next Bag2school collection will be 13th November. Bags will be sent home in the children's home packs in early November. These can be filled with unwanted clothing and textiles, for which the school receive £0.50 per kilo. An easy way to de-clutter and raise money for the school at the same time!

Soup n Sweet

The annual Soup n Sweet fundraiser will be held on November 15th. For it to be a continued success, we need YOUR HELP! More details to follow but if you are willing to help on the day, make soup, a sweet and/or home baking then please get in touch. You can contact Lisa Gibbons-Wood or Sarah Adams, or come along to Parent Council meetings.

USEFUL INFORMATION

Uniform swap shop

A uniform swap shop has been opened for school jumpers. If you have any old school jumpers which are in good condition you can either donate them to the swap shop or swap them for a larger size. If you need a new school jumper but don't have any to swap there is also a donation box.

EasyFundraising

Earn cash for us when you shop online by logging on first to the EasyFundraising website (www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/fettercairnpc) This is free and simple to use with over 2000 retailers including Amazon, Ebay, Argos, etc. It also offers exclusive retailer voucher codes so you can save money when you shop.

This is a really easy FREE way to donate to our funds when you do your normal online shopping. Please tell your friends and families too as the more members we have the more money we make!!

BUZZIN BEES GROUP



A group for Bumps, Babies and Bairns is held in the Adult Lounge every **Wednesday morning from 10am - 11.30am**. Tea/Coffee is provided for the parents/carers and juice and snack are provided along with stories, singing and games. For more information please contact Jessica Pollock on 01561 340357 (jessiebabev@hotmail.co.uk).

HALLOWEEN PARTY



FRIDAY 31ST OCTOBER, IS 'FRIGHT NIGHT' IN FETTERCAIRN. ALL GHOSTS, WIZARDS AND WITCHES ARE SPOOKILY INVITED WITH A PRIZE FOR THE BEST FANCY DRESS AND LANTERN. VENUE IS FETTERCAIRN VILLAGE HALL FROM 6 PM TIL 8 PM. TICKETS £3 UNDER 1'S FREE WITH ALL PROCEEDS SPLIT BETWEEN FETTERCAIRN PARENT COUNCIL AND THE VILLAGE HALL. FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT HELENE SHERIFFS OR FB PAGE FETTERCAIRN PARENT INFORMATION

Note: All children must be accompanied by an adult.

If you would like a copy of the minutes FPC meetings to be sent to you by email please contact Sarah Adams or Lisa Gibbons-Wood with your email address. Alternatively you can log on to www.fettercairn.aberdeenshire.sch.uk and click on Parent Information. There is always a copy of the minutes on the Parent Council Notice board in the Adult Lounge.

Adverse Weather Leaflet

Please review the Adverse Weather Leaflet you can download from the Aberdeenshire Council website which can be accessed

<http://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/parentscarers/AdverseWeatherLeafletforParentsandCarers.pdf>

If you are unable to access the internet please contact Natalie Stewart, Communication Assistant Education, Learning & Leisure Tel: 01224 664428 Fax: 01224 664615

email: [natalie.stewart@aberdeenshire.gov./](mailto:natalie.stewart@aberdeenshire.gov/)

Future Correspondence/Holiday Dates

If you would prefer to receive the school Newsletter or any school correspondence by email please tear of the slip below and send it back to school, where we will begin to send any relevant information to you via email. We cannot send any information to you via email without your written permission. Those already on list do not need to send again.

SCHOOL TERMS/HOLIDAYS SESSION 2014 - 2015

TERM 1

Tuesday 19th August - Friday 10th October inclusive

Monday 18th August - In Service

TERM 2

Monday 27th October – Friday 19th December inclusive

Monday 17th November - In Service

Tuesday 18th November - In Service

Wednesday 19th November – In Service

TERM 3

Monday 5th January – Thursday 2nd April inclusive

Thursday 12th February - Occasional Day

Friday 13th February - Occasional Day

Monday 16th February - Mid Term

Tuesday 17th February - In Service

Wednesday 18th February - In Service

TERM 4

Monday 20th April - Friday 3rd July inclusive

Monday 4th May - May Day

Future Correspondence

I would prefer to receive school information via email and I give you permission to send school correspondence to my email address _____

Name _____ Signed _____ Date _____

HELPING HANDS



Please tick where appropriate

I am willing to help on a regular basis

I am willing to help occasionally (once a term)

I cannot help on this occasion

Days I can help	a.m.	p.m.	After School
Monday	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tuesday	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wednesday	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Thursday	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Friday	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Activities I would feel comfortable to help with/oversee

- Art/Craft activities
- Baking
- Play / Games
- Computer activities
- Make workbooks/photocopy etc
- Cycling proficiency (When it comes around)
- School Sports
- Any

Name of Volunteer.....Contact Number.....

I have got 'Disclosure Scotland'

I am willing to get 'Disclosure Scotland'

Name of child / children

Class(es)

Please respond by as soon as possible to allow us to make best use of your support.

I.Clarke
Head Teacher